D- 1041

MUNICIPAL POLICE.
C. I. D.

Shanghai, March 13, 1930

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY
No. D.1041
Date 13-3-30

INTELLIGENCE REPORT.

Ziang Chong Silk Weaving Factory - 850 Rue Amiral Bayle

On January 19, 1930 this factory closed down owing to trade depression, and the workers forthwith appealed to Kuomintang Headquarters and the Social Bureau for its re-opening. As a result, the Kuomintang and Social Bureau jointly requested the manager of the factory to issue to each worker 40 cents per day from January 19 to February 1. The manager agreed to this request and the money was paid out accordingly. Mediation in the matter of reopening the factory was however referred to the Arbitration Board, a section of the Social Bureau, which found that the grounds for closing down were genuine, and recommended the issue of a retiring gratuity of $15 to each of the workers in addition to relief at the rate of 25 cents per day from February 1 to March 5. The workers however demanded a gratuity of $100 but later reduced their claim to $60, and this is how the matter stands at present. A report that it offered to increase the gratuity to $30 is denied by the factory management.

Regarding the fracas which occurred in front of the factory on March 5, the report appearing in our Intelligence Report of the following day is verified by the French Police and can be taken as an authentic account of the incident.

The Social Bureau is at present engaged in making an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the incident and its representative has already called on the French Police and been furnished with what information they possess. This representative was also permitted to inspect the police rifles the butts of which were broken during the melee.

Endeavours will be made to secure a copy of or some

information on the findings of the Social Bureau.

The incidents reported in the Labour Section of the Intelligence Report for March 10 are, I think, a very clear indication that these people are being influenced by outside communistic elements. A further indication in this direction is contained in literature which on the morning of March 10 was surreptitiously dumped in the operators' rest room of the North Mutual Exchange of the Shanghai Telephone Company. In this literature the telephone operators are urged to join the "Support Committee of the Ziang Chong Tragedy.

J. H. S. Robertson

C. D. I.

11/3/30.

D.C.

Information as requested. There is no suspicion of local political intrigue.

11/3/30

R. Edmonds
d/Sec.

(C.I.D.) Office Notes

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. I. D. REGISTRY
File No. No. I. O. D. 1041.
March 5, 1930.
7 - 3 - 30.

Fracas in French Concession; Factory workers attack Police - One demonstrator killed

About 250 employes of the Ziang Chong Silk Weaving Factory, 850 Rue Amiral Bayle, French Concession, (recently closed down owing to trade depression) demonstrated in front of the factory at 8.20 a.m. to-day, March 5, to enforce a demand for the issue of retiring gratuity of $100.00 each. On being offered $30.00 by the management they became unruly and ultimately the Reserve Unit of the French Police turned out and attempted to pacify them. The crowd resented the presence of the police and several of the female workers commenced throwing night soil from commodes on to the Annamite policemen who formed part of the Unit. When attempting to relieve the women of their night soil buckets, the Annamites were set upon by the male demonstrators who were armed with iron bars. Several attempts were made by the crowd to relieve the Annamites of their rifles, with the result that these policemen were forced to fire in the air.

In one instance, however, an Annamite police to prevent the loss of his rifle, shot his adversary in the abdomen. This man has since died. In other two cases two Annamites had the butts of their rifles broken in the struggle. One or two members of the crowd received minor injuries from their own fellows during the fray.

It would appear that from 8.20 a.m. until about 10 a.m. the mob did not display much rowdyism but at the latter hour it is alleged by the French Police, a shot was fired from a pistol by some unknown person in the midst of the crowd. From that moment the crowd became ugly, the fracas, as already outlined, commencing with the women's attack on the Annamite policemen. Complete order was restored. Three Annamite policemen are suffering from minor bruises inflicted by iron bars.

Information Reg

A. C. (Pol). 5/3

H. W. Robertson
C. D. I.

March 5, 1930.

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A. C. (Pol). C. D. I.

THE CHINA PRESS, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1930

Police Obliged To Use Arms When Unruly Mob Attacks Weaving Plant

One Workman Shot Dead, Two Others Hit By Bullets, And Four Policemen Badly Assaulted As Result Of Riot In French Town

One Chinese was shot to death and four policemen two French and two Annamites, and, two laborers were seriously injured on Admiral Bayle yesterday morning, when 200 workmen, armed with iron bars and other weapons created a riot in front of a Chinese weaving plant and clashed with the police.

The unruly mob, including several females, broke through the closed iron gates of the plant and destroyed two rifles, taken from the hands of the Annamites, who were badly beaten up. Soon after two French constables, who were called to the scene, were obliged to resort to their arms.

Several shots were fired and the mob soon dispersed, leaving behind them the four badly assaulted police men, and three of their comrades, who were hit by bullets.

The injured were immediately rushed to the St. Marie's Hospital. One of the laborers, fatally injured, succumbed to his wound before he received surgical treatment.

The whole trouble dates back to December 20, last year, when the Ziang Chong Weaving Factory on 860 Amiral Bayle closed down their plant owing to heavy losses in business. This created a sensation among the 287 laborers, who, thus thrown out of work, demanded a fair remuneration of $70 for each hand from the owners.

The question of gratuity presented a delicate problem when the owners offered only $30. Finally the Chinese Municipality was requested by the workmen to solve the problem. After investigations held by the Municipality and Kuomintang authorities, the gratuity was cut to $45 each for each regular hand.

Unsatisfied with the new offer, the laborers demonstrated before the plant for the past few days, when negotiations failed once again to solve an amicable settlement with the owners. As a precautionary measure, the French Police were called, while the entrance to the plant was closed.

At 8.20 a.m. yesterday the mob gathered again on Rue Amiral Bayle, and suddenly attacked the plant, forcing open the gates. Using iron bars and other weapons, the angry men and women assaulted the two Annamite policemen, who barred their entrance with rifles. The rifles, however, were soon destroyed. Seeing their imminent danger, the French police constables who were also on duty in the plant, resorted to their pistols, but before they could open fire, the mob had come upon them.

Fortunately the constables managed to use their arms finally, and the mob was subsequently dispersed. The four injured policemen together with the three laborers were rushed to the St. Marie's Hospital, where one workman succumbed to a fatal wound.

The police were seriously hit in their heads, while the other two laborers, one man and a woman, received injuries in the leg and thigh respectively. The latter are expected to recover shortly.

It was learned late last night that the matter had been left in the hands of the Chinese Municipality, who are expected to settle the incident pending five days' investigation.

Kung

I understand that the French Police withheld official information from press & this account & that in the N.C.D. News were obtained from other sources — Chinese witnesses, etc

FR.

POLITICAL BRANCH
(FOREIGN SECTION)
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